

**Remarks/Arguments:**

Claims 1-26 stand rejected.

By this Amendment claims 1, 12, 19 and 26 have been amended.

No new matter is being presented by these claim amendments, and accordingly, entry and consideration is respectfully requested. Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the original specification, and more particularly, at page 7, line 11 to page 8, line 30.

**REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-26 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

In the Action, claims 1-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Scarola et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,715,178) (hereafter referred to as Scarola) in view of Nixon et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0130846) (hereafter referred to as Nixon).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

**Claim 1**

Claim 1 is directed to a system for monitoring a process parameter, and recites:

a computer configured to receive primary data corresponding to the process parameter and configured to receive secondary data corresponding to the process parameter when the primary data indicates an alarm condition;...

an interface configured for communicating the secondary data corresponding to the process parameter from said at least one sensor when the alarm condition is indicated.

That is, the computer is configured to receive the secondary data upon a condition (i.e., when the primary data indicates an alarm condition). Moreover, the interface is configured to communicate the secondary data when the alarm condition is indicated.

**Scarola Reference**

Scarola teaches that all sensors A, B, C and D, for example, which monitor a process parameter, as shown in FIG. 30, are processed identically (through Plant Protection System 50 via digital fiber optics) to the data processing system 70. More particularly, the data processing system 70 receives sensor data from sensors A, B, C and D and performs its own signal

validation by signal logic 154 on the plant protection system signals based on a comparison of these redundant signals. The internally validated signals are passed on to the validated signal comparison logic 156. The validated signals from the control system 64 are compared and displayed on the CRT 84 (See Scarola at column 24, line 45 to column 25, line 7.) In Scarola, reception of sensor data by the data processing system 70 from one or more of the sensors A, B, C or D is not conditional and, furthermore and more particularly, such reception is not based upon the condition that primary data indicates an alarm condition. Further, in Scarola, since the signal validation logic 154 performs an internal validation (internal to the data processing system) on the incoming sensor data from sensors A, B, C or D, only validated signals from sensors A, B, C and D are transmitted to the validated signal comparison logic 156. Thus, contrary to the present invention recited in claim 1, Scarola teaches to **NOT pass** (i.e., not communicate) invalid sensor data to the validated signal comparison logic 156 upon a condition indicating invalid sensor data. Thus, Scarola does not disclose or suggest the features of reception of secondary data, when the primary data indicates an alarm condition or of the communication of the secondary data, when the alarm condition is indicated.

#### **Nixon Reference**

Nixon discloses that a process control system 10 includes a process controller 12 connected to a host workstation or computer 14 and to field devices 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 via input/output (I/O) cards 20 and 22. The host computer 14 is communicatively coupled to a portable computer system 30 through a remote or wireless communication device. (See Nixon at paragraph [0021].) Nixon, however, is silent regarding anything related to conditions for communication of field device data from field devices 15-19 using the portable computer system 30 or conditions for reception of such data by the host workstation or computer 14.

Applicant submits that the cited art of Scarola and Nixon, taken separately or in any proper combination, do not disclose or suggest the above mentioned features.

#### **Claims 1, 12, 19 and 26**

Applicant contends, therefore, that independent claim 1 is patentable over the art of record. Independent claims 12, 19 and 26 are also patentable over the art of record for at least similar reasons to those explained in connection with claim 1.

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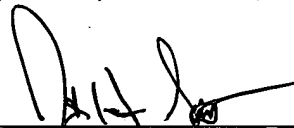
**Claims 2-11, 13-18 and 20-25**

Claims 2-11, 13-18 and 20-25 are also patentable over the art of record for at least the same reasons as claim 1, 12 or 19, but may be separately patentable for additional reasons as well.

**Conclusion**

In view of the claim amendments and remarks set forth above, Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-20.

Respectfully submitted,



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